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TCC  
Pre-Filed Testimony  
Lonnie Click  
EXH-5631\_R

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON  
ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

<p>In the Matter of the Application of:</p> <p>Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC, Applicant.</p>	<p>DOCKET NO. EF-210011</p> <p>TCC PRE-FILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY: WITNESS STATEMENT OF BENTON COUNTY FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK</p>
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WITNESS STATEMENT

Q: Please state your name and home address.

A: Lonnie E. Click, 726 S. Penn Pl., Kennewick WA 99336.

Q: Please briefly describe your experience and qualifications.

A: Fire Chief Benton County Fire District #1, National Wildland Fire Qualified Type 1  
Incident Commander and Operations Section Chief. 37 years' experience.

Q: What do you know about the fire history of the areas affected by the June 2023 fires?

TCC PRE-FILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF BENTON COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK - 1

LAW OFFICES OF  
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1 A: The area between Prosser and Benton City sees a significant amount of wildfire on an  
2 annual basis. Fires often occur in back-to-back years in these areas.  
3

4 Q: What guidance is utilized for aerial firefighting operations in your district?

5 A: Our fire district does not own any aerial resources of its own. In the event that a fire has the  
6 potential to get very large, the fire district can and has asked for aviation assistance through the  
7 Washington State Fire Chiefs Mobilization Plan. Aviation is used as an additional resource to  
8 ground resources in an effort to help limit fire spread. Aircraft can be very effective if used  
9 correctly in the appropriate places.  
10

11 Q: Please describe any opinion you have regarding the proposed locations of wind turbines on  
12 the Horse Heaven Hills Project as regards aerial firefighting requirements.  
13

14 A: Ridgelines are one of the best locations for fire containment lines to be established. With  
15 the installation of wind turbines in some of the areas, it may make it difficult to create the  
16 optimal wildfire containment line.  
17

18 Q: Please provide any relevant photographs and long with a description of when they were  
19 taken, where they were taken, and what they show.  
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1 A: Photos.  
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TCC PRE-FILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF BENTON COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK - 3

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June 19, 2023. Aerial suppression application Walla Walla County Fire District #6. Aircraft being used to contain fire in flat, unobstructed terrain. Obstacles create safety hazards for pilots and they may not be able to fly close enough to be effective.

Q: Please describe any comments or observations you have regarding the Applicant's Emergency Response Plan.

A: I do not believe that all hazards, risks, or potential impacts have been addressed. Space, distance and availability of required apparatus and suppressants have not been identified nor has the provider of these services.

1 Q: Please describe any opinions or comments you have regarding the information the applicant  
2 has provided regarding three proposed lithium-ion battery storage facilities on the HHH  
3 project.

4 A: Fire protection, suppression and associated hazards have not been addressed for the Battery  
5 Storage facility or facilities. These batteries can pose a significant health hazard to firefighters  
6 along with being very problematic to extinguish. Byproducts of combustion are very dangerous  
7 to firefighter health, and I would imagine the same for the environment with smoke filled skies  
8 and water run-off.

9  
10  
11 I am voluntarily supporting and coordinating with the local community non-profit organization  
12 Tri-City CARES.

13  
14 I am here to share my concerns about the impacts the Horse Heaven Hills Project will have on  
15 Benton County. I acknowledge that I may be cross-examined during the adjudication hearings.

16  
17 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that my  
18 testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

19  
20  
21 Signed this 13th day of July, 2023, in Kennewick WA \_\_\_\_\_.

22  
23 Lonnie E. Click \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_

24 Printed Name

Signature

25  
26  
TCC PRE-FILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF BENTON COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK - 5

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